



To: Tennessee High School Choral Directors

2/20/2012

From: Robert King, TNACDA Repertoire & Standards Chair for HS Choirs

Re: TNACDA Invitation – State Choral Festival, and MORE!

I hope this message finds you having a good school year with your choir program. I feel blessed every day to be able to work as a choir director, and am so proud of the excellent choral programs across our state. The activities of our regional TMEA affiliate vocal associations, and organizations like ACDA have contributed significantly to my professional growth, and speaking for TNACDA President Kevin Ford, and all of our officers, we want to continue to enhance the choral art into the future.

Primarily this letter is to encourage you to participate in adjudications. Hopefully you are already planning to sing in your Regional Adjudication, and for those who make a “Superior” at that event, to continue to the State Choral Festival April 25-27. Once again 3 regional sites are planned to make the event more accessible and cost effective for participants, moving the same panel of judges to each site to assure a consistent standard statewide. Objective critiques are the lifeblood of improvement, both for directors, and ultimately for the benefit of our students. The grades are secondary. Receiving suggestions for how we can continually improve is the real objective. Also the prestige of singing at the State event can provide an additional motivation for choristers. We hope you will seriously consider taking part.

Attached is important information about the event, including guidelines, dates & locations, fees, deadlines, and the new feature of group photos. You have no obligation to purchase any photos, and will receive a free photo for the director. It is important that all groups have their photo taken. The money that this company is giving us for that privilege is a significant help in keeping fees from rising to pay the true cost of the event. (Bringing in out of state adjudicators and moving them to 3 regional sites is costly, but well worth the result!)

Also, please visit our web site <http://tnacda.org/> and learn more about our summer conference June 22-23, links to our National and Regional conferences, and more! It is a privilege to partner with TNMEA to constantly strive to improve the choral art for all in our great state. Please do not hesitate to contact me (Robert.king@lipscomb.edu) if I may be of any assistance. I hope to see many of you in Chattanooga and at your regional site for the TNACDA State Festival.

**TENNESSEE ACDA STATE CHORAL FESTIVAL
PERFORMANCE APPLICATION 2012**

April 25 - Kingsway Christian Church 7887 Poplar Ave. Germantown, TN

April 26 - Lipscomb University, One University Park Drive, Nashville, TN

April 27 - Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church, 9132 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN

Postmark Deadline March 21 to avoid \$\$ Penalty

(You may choose a site outside your area if you prefer.)

4/25 – Memphis _____ 4/26 – Nashville _____ 4/27 – Knoxville _____

What time constraints are you under? Give a **minimum 3 hour block** you can work within.

Name of Group _____ Number of singers _____

Name of School _____

School Address _____

Director's Name _____

Director's ACDA Membership Number (on your Choral Journal label) _____

Phone School _____ Home _____

Fax _____ email _____

Cell Phone # you will have with you on the festival day _____

School Fee of \$175.00 must be enclosed with this application. Each additional choir is 150.00. Make check payable to TN ACDA. ACDA MEMBERS RECEIVE A \$50 PER CHOIR DISCOUNT if postmarked by the March 21 deadline. Therefore, ACDA Members pay a school fee of \$125.00 and each additional choir is \$100.00. Join ACDA and save! Spaces are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Program - Title Composer

1.

2.

3.

(Choirs may be limited to 2 selections if the schedule is too full to allow adjudication of 3.)

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Tennessee ACDA Sponsored State High School Choral Festival Guidelines and Regulations

The ACDA State High School Choral Festival is an adjudicated festival open to high school choirs (grades 9-12) who have received a superior at their regional adjudication festival. If a choir received a superior at the State Festival the previous year and is unable to participate in their regional festival the current year, they may also be invited by the festival committee which shall be made up of the Festival Manager, State HS R&S Chair, State Treasurer and the State President, President Elect and Vice-President. Additional consultation may be sought with area site coordinators as is appropriate.

1. Since all participating choirs have received superiors at the regional level, the adjudication standard at the State level is expected to be higher. Judges will use a 12 point system of grading each category. (A+ =12, A =11, A- =10, etc.) The overall rating they give the choir shall be the average of the scores in the individual categories, carried to 2 decimal places. The overall festival rating will be an average of the 3 judges. Rounding up of numbers will happen only in final averaging of the 3 judges overall scores.
2. Judges shall be secured from out of state and be of a high caliber with sufficient experience in judging as is appropriate for a State Level festival. The festival committee shall approve the list of judges before they are invited. Judges will receive this list of criteria, along with a sample adjudication form prior to their arrival at the festival.
3. There shall be both taped and written comments by the judges.
4. Each choir will perform 3 selections, unless limited to 2 by the festival coordinator due to time limitations at the festival site. Selections are the discretion of the director, and are not required to be the same as performed at the qualifying regional event. Be advised that quality of literature will have an effect on final grades. Each participating choir must submit 3 copies of their performance selections with measures numbered. Failure to fully comply will result in the lowering of the grade by one point on the 12 point scale for each piece. Use of illegally photocopied music will result in disqualification from performance and forfeiture of taped comments and plaque.
5. The fee for participation shall be \$175 dollars for the 1st choir, and \$150 for each additional choir from each school. ACDA members WHO PAY BY THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE receive a \$50 discount on each choir, so the first is \$125 and additional choirs from that school are \$100 each. Add \$25 per choir if past the deadline. All participating schools shall receive an official State Choral Festival participation plaque. All fees are non-refundable and must be paid before a choir can perform. Plaques are given only to choirs that actually perform. When festival sponsored photographer is present, groups are obligated to have their photo taken, but are under no obligation to purchase anything. Failure to comply will incur a \$25 fee. Directors receive a complimentary photograph of their ensembles. (The official photographer provides a significant financial contribution for the exclusive rights, and which helps keep group participation fees lower.)
6. Registration fee and form must be postmarked or received within 2 weeks of your Regional Adjudication participation, or 10 days prior to the first day of the State Festival, whichever comes first. Late registration shall incur an additional \$25 late fee per choir. No choir will be scheduled without payment received, and no payments may be made the day of the event. Registration forms must include a minimum 3 hour window of scheduling time for each choir. (For your benefit and to help make preparations, e-mail the site coordinator/scheduler as soon as you know you will participate so that they may begin to draft a master schedule sooner.)

(Revised 2/2012)